

TOMKINS LAW OFFICE*

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September 12, 2006

Anita D. Johnson
 c/o Commissioner for Patents
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BY FAX TO (571) 270-9845
 (9 pages total)

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Re: NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/553,693
U.S. National Stage of PCT/CA04/00599
I.A. Filing Date: 04/22/2004
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THERMAL
DE-BURRING OF SLOTTED WELL LINERS
Applicant: CLAERHOUT, Mike
Our File: 134.001

Thank you for your voicemail message this morning, in response to my message yesterday afternoon in connection with the Notification of Missing Requirements mailed August 15, 2006. The Notice indicates that no oath or declaration had been filed, but as I mentioned in my message, a signed Declaration was in fact filed as part of the Request in respect of PCT/CA04/00599. In your message, you indicated that the International Bureau had not provided the USPTO with a copy of this Declaration, and you invited me to submit a copy to you by fax.

For the sake of completeness, I am enclosing a full copy of the Request from PCT/CA04/00599, as received from the Receiving Office with Form PCT/RO/105 dated May 14, 2004. The Declaration is Sheet 5 of the Request.

For your further reference, I am also enclosing a copy of the aforesaid Form PCT/RO/105, confirming timely transmittal of the Request to the IB.

I trust that the enclosed documents will be sufficient to establish that the required Declaration was effectively submitted by the national stage entry deadline. I also presume

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that the \$65 surcharge referred to in the Notification of Missing Requirements will not be applicable in this case, given that the Declaration failed to actually reach the USPTO by the national stage entry deadline for reasons beyond the Applicant's control. However, if I am in error in this regard, kindly advise me at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,



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Enclosures